

**W E L C O M E
T O**



**NEIGHBORHOOD
BLOCK
WATCH**

Maricopa Police Department
www.cityofmaricopa.net

NOTES

Working With The Police



What Number Do I Call?

9-1-1 If it **IS** a life-threatening emergency
866-5111 If it is **NOT** a life-threatening emergency
316-6800 For general information

What Do I Need To Tell Them When I Call?

- ◆ **What** happened?
- ◆ **When** did it happen?
- ◆ **Where** did it happen?
- ◆ **Who** did it?

Suspect Description:

race/sex
clothing
height/weight
hair color
other identifying marks/traits

Vehicle Description:

color/make/model/year
license plate number
direction of travel
other identifying features

Do I have to give my name, address or phone number?

No; however, it is helpful to have that information in case we need to re-contact you for additional information.

Will the officer stop and talk to me?

Not unless you specifically request it. If you want to talk to the officer, tell the dispatcher when you call in.

Don't Just Call ... Call With Information

<div>NAME _____</div> <div>ADDRESS _____</div> <div>HOME PHONE _____ WORK _____ AWAY _____</div> <div>(AUTOS) Make/Model _____</div> <div>Lic.# _____ Year _____</div> <div>SPECIAL INFORMATION _____</div>	<div>NAME _____</div> <div>ADDRESS _____</div> <div>HOME PHONE _____ WORK _____ AWAY _____</div> <div>(AUTOS) Make/Model _____</div> <div>Lic.# _____ Year _____</div> <div>SPECIAL INFORMATION _____</div>	<div>NAME _____</div> <div>ADDRESS _____</div> <div>HOME PHONE _____ WORK _____ AWAY _____</div> <div>(AUTOS) Make/Model _____</div> <div>Lic.# _____ Year _____</div> <div>SPECIAL INFORMATION _____</div>
<div>RIGHT SIDE</div> <div>BEHIND</div> <div>ACROSS</div> <div>LEFT SIDE</div>		
<div>NAME _____</div> <div>ADDRESS _____</div> <div>HOME PHONE _____ WORK _____ AWAY _____</div> <div>(AUTOS) Make/Model _____</div> <div>Lic.# _____ Year _____</div> <div>SPECIAL INFORMATION _____</div>	<div>NAME _____</div> <div>ADDRESS _____</div> <div>HOME PHONE _____ WORK _____ AWAY _____</div> <div>(AUTOS) Make/Model _____</div> <div>Lic.# _____ Year _____</div> <div>SPECIAL INFORMATION _____</div>	<div>NAME _____</div> <div>ADDRESS _____</div> <div>HOME PHONE _____ WORK _____ AWAY _____</div> <div>(AUTOS) Make/Model _____</div> <div>Lic.# _____ Year _____</div> <div>SPECIAL INFORMATION _____</div>

Communication Tree

Neighborhood Watch Calling Guide

Call the Maricopa Police first (either 9-1-1 or non-emergency (520) 866-5111), then call the Neighborhood Watch Captain. Remember:

- If you call the next person on the tree and you get no answer or an answering machine, keep the tree going by calling the next level!
- When you get to the bottom of the tree, the person on the bottom must call the Captain to tell them the message. This checks for accuracy!

Captain
Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

Co-Captain
Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

Co-Captain
Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

Neighbor
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Can I shoot someone if they are trying to break into my house, or do I wait until they get inside, then shoot?

This is a very complicated subject. Use of force is generally illegal and is allowed only within very narrow limits. You should also realize that there are a number of other legal risks involved in your choice to use force.

Deadly force is force that is likely to cause death or serious physical injury; for example, use of a gun, knife or baseball bat. **Non-deadly force** is anything less; for example, punching or shoving someone. There are four situations that the use of force against another person is “legally justified,” and each has specific guidelines that must be met to avoid criminal liability:

- Self-defense
- Defense of another person
- Prevention of certain crimes
- Law enforcement

The decision to use deadly force is particularly grave and should be weighed carefully, preferably before you decide to arm yourself..

If something is happening and I don't know if it is considered an emergency, will I get in trouble if I call 911?

No. Actually all calls go into the same operators, but since they have fewer emergency lines, they will ask you to hang up and call back on the non-emergency phone number (which they will give you) so the 911 line can be cleared immediately. If there is an emergency for another agency or area, they will take the information and transfer your call.

If I call and complain about a neighbor or someone on my street, do I have to give my name, address and phone number if I fear retaliation?

No. However, it is helpful to have that information in case we need to re-contact you for additional information. If you want to actually file a complaint and have a report taken, you **do** have to give your personal information.

• ***What about recreational vehicles?***

Scooters

Children commonly use these human powered devices. Operators must follow the same rules of the road as pedestrians. The riders are subject to traffic control signals at intersections, crosswalk rules, must use sidewalks when available, and ride facing traffic when no sidewalks. It is legal to ride them on private property, sidewalks or crosswalks.

Laws governing these are found under:

ARS 28-101.40 (Pedestrian)

ARS 28-791

ARS 28-796

Bicycles

These are vehicles with 3 or fewer wheels, human powered and also include racing wheelchairs. At nighttime, bicycles must have a white light to the front and red reflector on rear. Its legal to ride these on the roadway however, you must ride on the right side and obey all traffic laws.

Laws governing these are found under:

ARS 28-101.6

ARS 28-817

ARS 28-81 5C

Moped

This is a bicycle that is equipped with a helper motor. It must have pedals and be capable of operating as a bicycle. Maximum speed is 25 MPH. When motor is engaged, operators must have a driver's license, registration (\$5.00 decal from MVD) and insurance. It may drive on the roadway but not in bike paths when motor is engaged and must obey all traffic laws.

Laws governing these are found under:

ARS 28-101.30

ARS 28-2513

ARS 28-4135

Motorized Skateboards

These are self-propelled devices that have a motor, deck and 2 tandem wheels (one in front of the other) in contact with the ground. Although not a motor vehicle, (No driver's license, registration or insurance required) motorized skateboard riders must obey all traffic laws.

Laws governing these are found under:

ARS 28-101 .32.b(i)

ARS 28-904

ARS 28-101.52

Motor Driven Cycles / Pocket Bikes

These are motorcycles, including a motor scooter with a motor that produces not more than **five** horsepower. If driven on private property there are no license requirements; however DUI, accidents and reckless driving laws apply. On roadway, these cycles and operators must meet all the requirements of a motorcycle including registration, driver's license "M" endorsement, insurance, and eye protection. Helmets are required on riders under 18 years. These vehicles are not authorized for freeway use and must be driven on private property unless rider meets all above motorcycle requirements. All traffic laws must be obeyed.

Laws governing these are found under:

ARS 28-101.31

ARS 28-3151.A

ARS 28-964

ARS 28-733

Motor Cycles

These are motor vehicles that have a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and are designed to travel with not more than three wheels in contact with the ground. Riders must have valid drivers license with motorcycle (M) endorsement, registration, insurance and eye protection. Riders under the age of 18 must wear a helmet. Motorcycles are permitted on the roadway and must obey all traffic laws as any other vehicle on the roadway. Splitting traffic in Arizona is illegal.

Laws governing these are found under:

ARS 28-101.34

ARS 28-964

ARS 28-3151.A

ARS 28-4135.C

Off Road Recreational Vehicle (ATV)

This is a motor vehicle that is designed primarily for recreational non-highway all terrain travel. It has 3 or more low pressure tires, a seat, and handlebars. It is permitted on private property with no legal requirements except DUI, reckless driving and accidents. To operate on the roadway the driver and vehicle must meet all other requirements such as registration, driver's license, and insurance and obey all applicable traffic laws. If the ATV has three wheels the driver must have a class "M" endorsement on his driver's license. An Off-road plate is available, however, a street legal registration is required for roadway use.

Laws governing these are found in:

ARS 28-101.3

ARS 28-964

Neighborhood Electric Vehicle / Golf Cart

A golf cart is a motor vehicle with not less than 3 wheels capable of a speed no greater than 25 MPH and carries no more than 4 people including the driver. On private property such as golf courses, no requirements are needed including crossing the roadway incident to golf play.

A neighborhood electric vehicle must be emission free, carry 4 or fewer persons, operate at less than 25-MPH, and have 4 wheels. It shall not be operated on a roadway posted at more than 35-MPH, except to cross such a road. Both must be registered and insured and the driver must be licensed if operated on the roadway.

Laws governing these are found in:

ARS 28-101.23 (Golf Cart)

ARS 28-101.35 (Neighborhood Electric Vehicle)

ARS 28-2153

ARS 28-966

Electric Mobility Device (SEGWAY®)

This is a self-balancing two non-tandem wheeled device with a motor and maximum speed of 15 MPH capable of transporting only one person. This vehicle may only transport one person and travel as a pedestrian would travel. Must follow laws regarding pedestrian duties. It has no registration or insurance requirements and can travel on private property, sidewalks and crosswalks.

Laws governing these are found in: ARS 28-101.20

Motorized Wheelchair

This is a self-propelled wheelchair that is used by a person for mobility. May transport one person, as a pedestrian would travel. It is permitted on private property, sidewalks and crosswalks. Must follow laws regarding pedestrian duties. They have no registration or insurance requirements.

Laws governing these are found in:

ARS 28-101.32b(ii)

This information is courtesy of the Maricopa Police Department's Traffic Division.

ARS codes may be viewed at www.azleg.state.az.us/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp

Suspicious Activity...What Is It?

Suspicious activity is any activity that is questionable. In your neighborhood you know the "normal" type of activity that takes place. Suspicious activity is anything that just doesn't look right.

What to look for:

- Cars/trucks driving slowly cruising streets.
- Do these cars/trucks fit the area?
- Do the drivers fit the area?
- What are the driver's actions?
- Does the home/business look to be occupied?
- Does the driver appear to notice what you are doing?
- Does he/she display too much interest in what you are doing?



Okay, now you see something going on and you want to report it.

How do you report suspicious activity?

If it is just something that looks out of the ordinary, call the non-emergency number at **(520) 866-5111**.

If you have just **WITNESSED** someone breaking into a home (i.e., breaking a window, prying open a front door, etc.), you would call **9-1-1**.

Keep in mind, 9-1-1 is for calls that are an emergency. The non-emergency number will still connect you with our dispatchers, but allows the 9-1-1 phone lines to remain open for true emergency calls.

Information Needed by Police

Physical description of Person/Persons:

- Height
- Weight
- Age
- Hair color
- Eye color
- Facial hair (beard, mustache, goatee, etc.)
- Scars/Tattoos
- Clothing worn (shirt/tie, jeans, t-shirt, trousers, jacket, sandals, tennis shoes, boots, hat, etc.)
- Sex
- Ethnic background (Black, White, Hispanic, Indian, Asian, etc.)

Description of Vehicle:

- Year
- Color
- Make (Ford, Chevy, Dodge, etc.)
- Model
- Color of vehicle
- How many doors
- License plate number (is it out-of-state)
- Special markings (pin striping, mag tires, unusual paint job, vinyl top, rims, etc.)
- Direction of travel

Method and Direction of Escape**Location**

- Yours
- Suspicious person's

Brief description of his/her activities that make them suspicious.

Do I have to give my name, address or phone number?

No; however it is helpful to have that information in case we need to re-contact you for additional information.

Will the officer stop and talk to me?

Not unless specifically requested. If you want to talk to the officer, tell the dispatcher when you call.

What number do I call?

- **911** if it **IS** a life-threatening emergency
- **(520) 866-5111** if it is **NOT** a life-threatening emergency
- **(520) 316-6882** for general information

ACTIVITY	POSSIBLE CRIME
Going door-to-door in a residential neighborhood.	Possible "door knock" burglary suspects.
Waiting or loitering in front of closed business or unoccupied houses.	Possible burglary suspects or trespassers.
Forcing entrance into an unoccupied home.	Possible burglary or theft suspects.
Person carrying property, especially if running or at an unusual hour.	Possible suspect fleeing from the scene of a crime.
Screaming or loud voices.	Possible rape or assault.
Loitering near schools or parks.	Possible sex offender.
Items or services for sale at very low prices.	Possible stolen property or fraudulent scheme.
ACTIVITY	POSSIBLE CRIME
Driving slowly and aimlessly through a residential neighborhood.	Possible burglary suspects or sex offender.
Parked, occupied vehicles; especially at unusual hour.	Possible burglary suspects or sex offender.
Vehicle driving at night without lights.	Possible burglary suspect.
Person being forced into vehicle.	Possible kidnapping, assault or attempted rape.
Abandoned vehicles parked on your street.	Possible stolen car.
Objects thrown out of a vehicle.	Possible disposal of contraband.
Business transaction being conducted out of a vehicle.	Possible sale of drugs or stolen property.
Vehicle parked in front of an unoccupied home or closed business being loaded with valuables.	Possible burglary or theft in progress.
Vehicles being operated with a cracked steering column or screwdriver in the ignition switch.	Possible stolen vehicle.
Sound of breaking glass.	Possible burglary or theft.

MAILBOX: Your mailbox should be located so it can be seen and observed by your neighbors. Put only your street address on the box, not your name.

WIDE ANGLE VIEWERS: Put a peephole in your front door and USE IT. Never open your door to a stranger. Make sure the eye-viewer gives you at least 180 degrees of visibility.

GARAGE DOOR: Keep it closed and locked. This helps protect valuable property stored in your garage and prevents access to interior doors to the house. An open garage is an invitation for a burglar.

GARAGE WINDOWS: Garage windows should be locked and reinforced with mesh screening. They should be covered with shades or blinds so a burglary cannot look inside for possible loot or for an indication of someone being home.

STORAGE SHEDS: Storage sheds or outside buildings should be securely locked. Any tools or equipment which could help a burglar break into your house should be locked in the shed or in a locked garage.

ARCADIA DOORS: Secure your patio doors, too. A broomstick, dowel, or finger-operated lock can help. A pin-type lock or a key is better. Two or three screws in the overhead track will reduce the chance of lifting the door out of the track.

FENCES: Fences make it harder for a burglar to carry away large items, but are only effective if the gates are locked. Gates should always be locked.

WARNING SIGNS: A sign indicating an alarm system has been installed, that a dangerous dog is present, or other warning signs can be a good deterrent. To be effective signs must be of sufficient size to attract attention and be in a conspicuous place.

PERIMETER LIGHTING: All sides of your home should be protected by security lighting. Attractive, low-wattage lighting may be an effective way to keep intruders from getting interested.

SIDE AND REAR WINDOWS: Windows that cannot be seen from the street because of location or fences are a favorite place of entry for burglars. These windows must be locked with secure locks. They may require the use of iron bars, grills, or special burglar resistant glass or plastic panes.

ROOF OPENINGS: All skylights, roof vent openings or any other potential ceiling entrance should be reinforced with metal bars or heavy screens.

OUTSIDE: Trim back shrubbery that hides doors or windows. Cut back tree limbs that could help a thief climb into second story windows. Make sure all porches, entrances, and yards are well-lighted. Help keep your neighborhood in good shape. Dark alleys, litter and run-down areas attract crime.

KEY SENSE: Do not hide house keys in mailboxes, planters or under doormats. Give a duplicate key to a trusted friend or neighbor in case you are locked out. Do not put any personal identification on key rings. Leave only your ignition key with service mechanics and parking garage attendants. If you lose the keys to your home or move, change the locks immediately.

ANSWERING THE DOOR: Install a peephole or wide-angle viewer in all entry doors so you can see who is outside without opening the door. A short chain between the door and the jamb is not a good substitute because it can be broken easily. Don't open the door to anyone you do not know without first verifying that person's identity.

ANSWERING THE TELEPHONE: Don't give any information to "wrong number" callers. Ask what number they were dialing. Check references of any person calling about a survey or credit check before volunteering information. Offer to call the person back instead of responding immediately. Hang up immediately on any threatening or harassing calls. If the caller persists, call police and the phone company. **GOING AWAY?** *Burglars hope to avoid confrontations, so make your home look occupied!* Leave lights on and the radio playing, preferably a talk show, when you go out. Keep your garage door closed and locked. Use inexpensive timing devices to turn inside lights and radio on and off at different times. If no one will be at home for more than a few days, arrange to have someone pick up the mail and newspapers. Have deliveries stopped or sent elsewhere.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME:

- Plan your trip and give the itinerary with emergency phone numbers to a trusted friend or neighbor.
- Place identification tags on the inside and outside of your luggage. Use your first initial and last name only.
- Install good locks on your doors and windows and be sure to use them.
- Remove all exterior “hidden” house keys.
- Make sure all valuables are engraved with your driver’s license number and expiration date.
- Make a record of your credit card and travelers check numbers and keep it in a safe place.
- Arrange for a friend or neighbor to pick up your mail, newspaper and packages on a daily basis. You can also stop delivery of both for the time you will be gone.
- Make arrangements to have your lawn watered and mowed.
- Use timers for interior lights and radios. Make your house look “live in.”
- Give your local law enforcement agency the dates that you will be out of town. As time permits, they will conduct extra patrols of your neighborhood.
- Make arrangements for the care of your pets.
- Purchase a prepaid phone card.

Operation Identification is a citizen’s burglary prevention program for use in homes. The Operation ID program involves the marking of property with an identifying number as a means of discouraging burglary and theft. In communities where it has been properly implemented, Operation ID has shown dramatic results in its ability to reduce burglaries.

Physical Force

- Treat every gun as if it were loaded.
- Never point a gun at anything you don’t intend to shoot.
- Unattended guns should be unloaded, have a trigger lock put on, and locked away.
- Avoid using alcohol and drugs when handling guns.

Safe Gun Handling

- Don’t take for granted someone’s word that a gun is unloaded—check it yourself.
- Know your weapon thoroughly.
- Know all safety features and their location.
- Know how to disassemble and reassemble your gun.

Operation Identification

The Operation ID program has two basic parts:

FIRST...

Mark your valuables with your driver's license number so that your property can be easily traced and identified as yours. **Please note:** If your driver's license number is your social security number, we strongly recommend you obtain a new license with a new number; **or**, obtain an Arizona State Identification Card that has a generic number and does not expire.

Mark property as follows:

AZxxxxxxxx 03

(License number & year of expiration)

Engrave in two locations; one that can be easily seen and one that cannot.

SECOND...

Display a sticker that tells would-be burglars that your property has been marked.

What makes Operation Identification so effective?

Marked property is difficult for a burglar to dispose of or resell. It can be traced to the rightful owner with relative ease. And, if the burglar is caught with marked property, it is solid evidence of possession of stolen goods.

After marking your property, make a list of your valuables and keep a copy of the list in a safe place. If you should become a burglary victim, you will be able to quickly describe the stolen property from the list. This will be of great help to the police in their attempts to recover the stolen possessions.

DO NOT, HOWEVER, DISPLAY AN OPERATION IDENTIFICATION STICKER WITHOUT FIRST ENGRAVING YOUR PROPERTY.

Once property has been marked and a list made, display the Operation Identification sticker on doors and windows which could be used for entry. By advertising your participation in Operation ID this way, you are announcing that your valuable property has been marked and that it will be difficult for the burglar to resell. Often the presence of the sticker alone is enough to deter a burglar.

Burglary is the most frequently committed crime in the United States. By participating in Operation ID, you are taking one important step to protect your possessions from burglary and theft. There are many other crime prevention anti-burglary precautions you can take to protect your home, property, business and family. For further information contact your local law enforcement agency.

Property Record

Name _____

Date _____

Insurance Company _____ Phone _____

Policy Number _____

Driver's License Number _____ State _____ Expiration _____

All items should be photographed and receipts filed with this form. Jewelry and antiques that cannot be engraved, attach photographs and appraisals.

SOUNDEQUIPMENT/TV/VCR/CAMERAS

ITEM	MAKE	MODEL	COLOR	SERIAL #

BICYCLES/SKATEBOARDS/SCOOTERS

ITEM	MAKE	MODEL	COLOR	SERIAL #

[illegible]

Mark these items:

- Adding Machines
- Answering Machines
- Bicycles
- Binoculars
- Cameras
- Car Tape Decks/Stereos
- CB Radios
- Cell Phones
- Computers
- DVD players
- Fishing Rods/Reels
- Golf Clubs
- Guns
- Mag Wheels
- Microwaves
- Musical Instruments
- Outboard Motors
- Radios
- Stereo Equipment
- Tape Recorders
- Tools (hand/power)
 - TVs
- Typewriters
- Vacuum Cleaners
- VCRs
- Wheel Covers

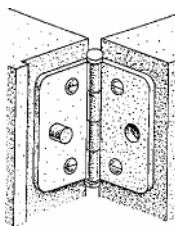
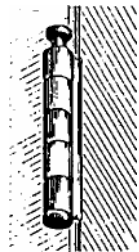


Locks

DOOR HINGES

Many homes have doors which open to the outside, exposing the hinge pins. Despite your good strong lock, the burglar can remove the pins and lift the door from the frame.

There are hinges which have non-removable pins or hinges containing set screws to prevent pin removal.



To prevent this, remove two opposing screws from each leaf of the hinge. Screw a lag bolt into the jamb, sawing off the head. Or use a headless nail, leaving 1/2 inch of the nail or bolt protruding. Drill out the opposite hole in the jamb leaf. Do this to both top and bottom hinges. When the door is closed the hinge pins may be removed, but the door will remain firmly in place.

If the hinge screws do not line up with each other do the following:

1. Drive the pin into the frame just below the hinge.
2. Drill a hole in the edge of the door.
3. The hole should be larger in diameter than the pin.

This is good protection for any door, regardless of how the hinge pins have been installed.

SECURING ATTIC CRAWLWAY OPENING

Reason for security of crawlway opening: Several burglars have made easy entry into homes by crawling up into the attic then kicking down through the ceiling causing damage, plus what they steal.



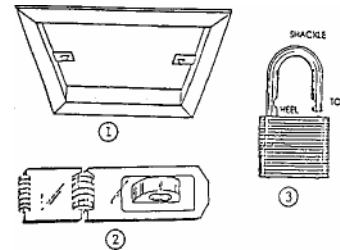
Install a 2x2 board cut the length of opening and secured with 3" to 4" screws. This will prevent cover from being raised on this end (A). Frame supporting cover should be 1x4 boards

for proper strength (B). Cover board should be at least 1/2" plywood (C). Heavy duty hasp and padlock secured with bolts and nuts, **not screws** (D).

When the crawlway opening is not installed inside the home or storeroom, it should be secured by other means.

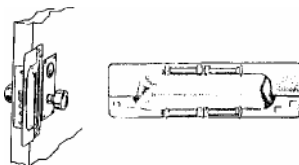
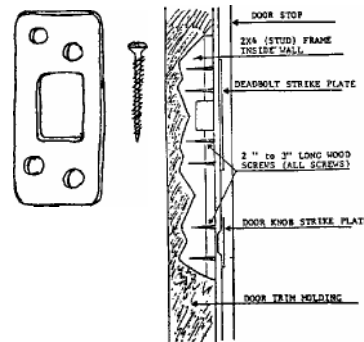
Secure the crawlway with the following:

1. A solid wood or plywood cover.
2. Two hardened steel hinging hasps, or hinge one side of the door from the inside and put a hasp on the other side.
3. One or two case-hardened padlocks.



SECURITY STRIKE PLATE

The strike plates on all exterior doors should be anchored with screws 2 to 3 inches long so they reach well into the stud. This will make it extremely difficult for a thief to kick the door open.



LATCH BOLT DOOR GUARD

The Blocker. The latch door guard for that added protection against forced entry attempts. It mounts to the door with four heavy-duty bolts.

LOCKS

The spring latch lock is a privacy lock and should not be used for security. It offers no protection. The bolt can easily be slipped by a plastic credit card, fingernail file, or thin bladed knife.

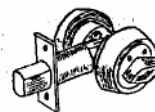
This is the same type of spring latch lock; but with the addition of a "deadbolt latch," it offers better protection against being slipped if installed correctly. However, this lock offers little protection against being forced because the burglar simply twists the doorknob off with a pipe wrench or vise grips.

DEADBOLTS

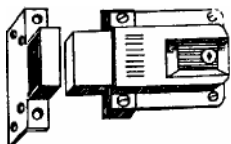
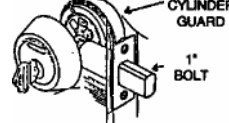
It is highly recommended that all exterior doors be equipped with a good quality deadbolt lock. A deadbolt should have the following:

1. A solid, case-hardened steel cylinder guard; a rotating cylinder guard is even better.
2. A bolt that protrudes at least 1 inch.
3. Case-hardened fasteners to hold both pieces of the lock securely to the door.

SINGLE CYLINDER



ROTATING CYLINDER GUARD



"JIMMY PROOF" RIM LOCK

Another excellent lock is the rim lock or vertical deadbolt. It comes in single or double cylinder varieties and features two vertical deadbolts that slide into hardened metal hasps attached to the door jamb. This type of lock cannot be slipped, forced with a wrench, or pried open.

Another type of rim lock utilizes a large, horizontal, sliding bar. It is less expensive than other types but equally effective. However, both of these locks are only as strong as the screws that attach them to the doorframe.



RIM LOCK

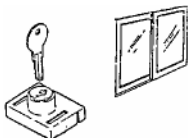
CASEMENT WINDOWS

Casement windows secure best when the latch works properly and the window shuts tightly. Removing the window makes it harder on the thief if he should break the glass to open the window.

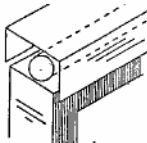
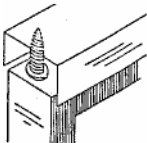
Drill a small hole through the latch frame and the latch handle. A metal pin or small padlock can be inserted, locking the latch closed.



SLIDING WINDOWS



There are several types of anti-slide locks available for securing sliding windows. Metal pins, screws and lag bolts can also be used. Do not use a lock that is difficult to remove on a window that is an emergency exit.



Install wood screws in the upper track above the window. The screw heads should just clear the window, allowing it to slide, but not lift. A wood dowel the appropriate diameter can be used in place of the screws. The dowel should be the same width as the sliding portion of the window.

Residential Security Survey

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted.

Exterior Doors

Do all exterior doors have dead bolt locks with a 1-inch throw?

Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.

Doors feature wide-angle peep-holes, with at least a 180 degree angle, at heights everyone can use.

If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so they cannot be shattered.

Do all exterior doors have security strike plates with at least four or more 3-inch screws?

Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge or in the mailbox.

Garage and Sliding Door Security

The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt.

The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security.

Garage doors are closed when not in active use.

Sliding glass doors have an anti-lift device or plate and an additional locking device.

A dowel or pin to secure a sliding glass door has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track.

The sliding door is locked every night and each time we leave the house.

Outdoor Security

Shrubs and bushes are cut to the lower edge of the window, so you can see the window clearly.

Trees are cut 6-7 feet off the ground, so no one can use them to hide behind.

Do you leave a front porch or carport light on all night, or use motion sensor lighting?

Are gates to the backyard secured?

Is the circuit box secured?

If you have any access to your attic from outside, is it secured?

Is your address visible from the street during the day and night?

Do you have any "hidden" keys? Remove them if you do. Burglars know all the hiding places!

Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property

Gate latches, garage doors and shed doors are locked with high-security laminated padlocks.

Grills, lawn mowers and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed.

Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar or quality padlock and chain; and are always locked, even if we leave them for a minute.

Our home inventory is up-to-date and includes pictures. A complete copy is kept somewhere out of the house.

Vehicle Security

Though professional car thieves have entered the field in increasing numbers, most cars are still taken by amateurs who can be stopped fairly easily. You can greatly increase your protection against this type of crime by taking the following sensible precautions.

LOCK UP

- An unlocked car is an open invitation to a car thief. *Lock up whenever you leave your car, and take the keys with you.*
- Lock the trunk and/or tailgate.
- Close all windows -- professional thieves have tools that help unlock cars through a minimum of open space.
- When you park the car, remove the tape deck, CB or other valuable possessions from the car. Do not leave gift-wrapped packages or cameras lying on the seat of your car. Lock all valuables in your trunk or take them with you. If possible, also remove the CB antenna and stow it in the trunk.

PARK CAREFULLY

- Avoid leaving an auto unattended in public parking lots for an extended period of time. A car is five times more likely to be stolen from an unattended lot than from the street or an attended lot.
- If possible, park your car in a lot where you don't have to leave your keys.
- Never attach a tag with your name and address to your key ring. If the keys are lost or stolen, the tag will lead the thief directly to your car -- and your home. If you have to leave your keys with a parking attendant, only leave the ignition key.
- At night, park in well-lighted areas with pedestrian traffic.
- Whenever possible, turn wheels sharply toward the curb when parking, making it extra difficult for thieves to tow your car.
- Be sure vent or wind-wing windows are shut tight. These are a favorite means of entry for car thieves.
- Have keys ready to open car door quickly.
- Ask security officers to escort you to your vehicle; especially at night.

OPERATION I.D.

- With an electric engraver, etch your Arizona Driver's License number preceded by the letters "AZ" on CB radios, tape decks and other removable items.
- Record your vehicle identification number (located on a small metal plate on the dashboard of newer cars) and store it in a safe place.

USE "ANTI-THEFT" DEVICES

- When buying a car, check the manufacturer's list of anti-theft options, such as interior hood and trunk releases, locking steering columns and others.
- Consider the purchase and installation of security devices, such as:
 - Interior hood lock and release.
 - A second ignition switch or "kill switch" which prevents electrical current from reaching coil distributor.
 - A fuel switch which prevents fuel from reaching the carburetor.

- A locking gas cap.
- Locking devices for batteries, wheels, decks, etc.
- An alarm device which will activate a siren, horn or lights -- or all three -- to frighten the thief away before he is able to steel your car. *Avoid a security system with an override feature.*

Watch Your Car

The **Watch Your Car program** requires participants to register their vehicles with a law enforcement official, which will enter it into a special database developed by the Arizona Automobile Theft Authority (AATA) and maintained by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Registered participants will then display the “Watch Your Car” decal in the window of their vehicle. By displaying the decal, vehicle owners convey to law enforcement officials that their vehicle is not usually in use between the hours of 1 am and 5 am, when the majority of auto thefts occur.

If a police officer sees the vehicle in operation between these hours, they have the right to pull it over and question the operator. An officer can also stop your vehicle any time within a mile of the state border. With access to the AATA database, the officer will be able to determine if the vehicle has been stolen or not. This also allows law enforcement officials to notify the vehicle’s owner immediately upon determination that it is being illegally operated.

To register a vehicle with the Watch Your Car program, the owner must present a valid driver's license, vehicle registration, proof of ownership, and proof of vehicle insurance. For registration locations call: **1-888-NO-THIEF**. You can also register online at: <http://www.azwatchyourcar.com>; click on the Watch Your Car link.

How to Be “Streetwise” and Safe

Knowing how to protect yourself — and joining with your neighbors to make your streets safer places to be — can reduce the opportunity for muggers, purse snatchers, and other street criminals to strike.

3 Basic Rules:

- **DO** stay alert. Keep your mind on your surroundings, who’s in front of you and who’s behind you. Don’t get distracted. If you’re worried about crime, ask a friend to accompany you when you go out.
- **DO** communicate the message that you’re calm, confident, and know where you’re going. Stand tall, walk purposefully, and make quick eye contact with people around you.
- **DO** trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable in a place or situation, leave.

When Walking in Your Neighborhood:

- Plan the safest route to your destination and use it. Choose well-lighted busy streets and avoid passing vacant lots, alleys, or construction sites. Take the long way if it’s the safest.
- Know your neighborhood. Find out what stores and restaurants are open late and where the police and fire stations are.
- Make sure you know where your children are going when they go out and encourage them to play with other kids. Show them safe places in the neighborhood where they can go if they ever feel scared.
- Carry your purse close to your body and keep a firm grip on it. Carry a wallet in an inside coat or side trouser pocket, not in a rear trouser pocket.
- Walk facing traffic so you can see approaching cars.
- Don’t overburden yourself with packages and groceries that make it hard to react.
- Have your car or house key in hand as you approach your vehicle or home.
- If you suspect you’re being followed by someone on foot, cross the street and head for the nearest well-lighted, populated area. Walk quickly or run to a house or store to call police. If you are really scared, scream for help.
- If you are being followed by someone in a car, change direction immediately and make a visible point of writing down the license number.

In The Car:

- Keep your car in good running condition to avoid breakdowns.
- Drive with all car doors locked. Keep windows rolled up whenever possible.
- Park in well-lighted areas that will still be well-lighted when you return. Lock your car doors.
- If you are being followed while driving, drive to the nearest police or fire station, open gas station or other business, or well-lighted residence where you can safely call police. Try to get the car’s license number and description. If no safe areas are near, honk the horn repeatedly and turn on your emergency flashers.

Jogging, Biking and Other Outdoor Activities:

- Choose routes in advance that are safe and well populated.
- Vary your route and schedule.
- Avoid jogging and biking at night.
- Know businesses that are open and locations of police and fire stations.
- Consider carrying a shriek alarm.
- Consider **not** wearing your stereo headphone. It's safer to be alert.

What If It Happens To You?

- Remain calm; try not to show any signs of anger or confusion.
- If the attacker is only after your purse or other valuables, don't resist. You don't want to escalate a property crime into a violent confrontation.
- Make a conscious effort to get an accurate description of your attacker; age, race, complexion, body build, height, weight, type and color of clothing, tattoos, piercings, etc.
- Call the police immediately, identifying yourself and your location. Contact your local victim assistance agency to help you deal with the trauma that all crime victims experience. They can also help you learn about victim compensation laws and how to follow your case's progress.

Take Action Today

Help reduce opportunities for street crime in your community.

- Make sure street lighting is adequate and parks, vacant lots, and alleys are free of debris and graffiti.
- Get together with your neighbors and local law enforcement to start a mutual protection program like Neighborhood Watch.
- Try to make sure teens in your community have a place for their energies — a cleaned up park, recreation center/areas, community tasks.
- Volunteer to escort a friend or neighbor who goes to work or class at night.
- If you see a crime being committed, call the police immediately and stay with the victim until the police get there. Be supportive and offer to accompany the victim to the hospital or police station. How would you feel if you needed help and no one volunteered?

Credit Information

Free Credit Reports (Annual)

Web: www.annualcreditreport.com (Do not access through pop-ups or email.)

Telephone: 1-877-32-8228

Mail: Standardized form must be used. (Download at www.ftc.gov/credit)
 Send to: Annual Credit Report Request Services
 P.O. Box 105281
 Atlanta, GA 30348-5281

To Protect Your Personal Information:

To "opt out" of receiving pre-screened credit card offers, call:
 1-888-5-OPTOUT (1-888-567-8688)

To remove your name from direct mail lists:

DMA Mail Preference Service
 P.O. Box 643
 Carmel, NY 10512

To remove your name from calling lists:

DMA Telephone Preference Service
 P.O. Box 1559
 Carmel, NY 10512

Send your name, address and telephone number to the above addresses or visit www.dmaconsumers.org for more information. To remove your e-mail address from many direct e-mail lists, visit www.dmaconsumers.org

To place your name on the national "Do Not Call" list:

Call 1-888-382-1222
 Web: www.donotcall.gov

Remove Your Name from Sweepstakes Lists:

Readers Digest
 Call 1-800-310-6261
 Web: www.rd.com

Publishers Clearing House
 Call 1-877-379-3377
 Web: www.pch.com

To report Identity Theft:

Call the Federal Trade Commission toll-free number, 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338)
 Write: ID Theft Clearinghouse, FTC, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20580, or
 Web: www.consumer.gov/idtheft

Call the Social Security Number Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271; Web: www.ssa.gov
 Call each of the three credit bureaus listed below and request a "fraud alert" be placed on your account.

Credit Bureau	To Obtain a Credit Report	To Report Fraud
Equifax www.equifax.com	Call: 1-800-685-1111 Write: PO Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374-0241	Call 1-800-525-6285 AND Write the address at left
Experian www.experian.com	Call: 1-888-EXPERIAN (1-888-397-3742) Write: PO Box 2104 Allen, TX 75013	Call 1-888-397-3742 or write address at left
TransUnion www.tuc.com	Call: 1-800-916-8800 Write: P.O. Box 1000 Chester, PA 19022	Call 1-800-680-7289 AND Write: Fraud Victim Assistance Division P.O. Box 6790 Fullerton, CA 92634

